

THI

THE'SIS. *n. f.* [*thesis*, Fr. *thesis*.] A position; something laid down; affirmatively or negatively.
The truth of what you here lay down,
By some example should be shown.
An honest, but a simple pair,
May serve to make this *thesis* clear. *Prior.*

THE'SMOTHE. *n. f.* [*thesmote*, Fr. *thesmote*; *thesmote* and *thesmote*.] A lawgiver.

THE'URGY. *n. f.* [*thesurgy*.] The power of doing supernatural things by lawful means, as by prayer to God. *Bailey.*

THEW. *n. f.* [*thaw*, Saxon.]

1. Quality; manners; customs; habit of life; form of behaviour.
Home report these happy news,
For well yee worthy been for worth and gentle thews.
From mother's pap I taken was unfit,
And freight deliver'd to a fairy knight,
To be upbrought in gentle thews and martial might. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*
2. In *Shakespeare* it seems to signify brawn, or bulk, from the Saxon *thow*, *the thigh*, or some such meaning.
Nature crescent does not grow alone
In *theus* and bulk; but, as this temple waxes,
The inward service of the mind and soul
Grows wide withal. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*
Will you tell me, master Shallow, how to chuse a man?
Care I for the limbs, the *theus*, the stature, bulk and big
semblance of a man? give me the spirit, matter Shallow.
Shakespeare's Henry IV.

THE'WED. *adj.* [from *thaw*.] Educated; habituated; accustom'd.
But he was wife and wary of her will,
And ever held his hand upon his heart;
Yet would not seem so rude, and *thawed* in ill,
As to despise so courteous seeming part. *Fairy Queen, b. ii.*

THEY. *n. f.* in the oblique case *them*, the plural of *he* or *she*. [*thay*, Saxon.]

1. The men; the women; the persons.
They are in a most warlike preparation. *Shak. Coriolanus.*
Why do you keep alone?
Of sorriest fancies your companions making,
Using those thoughts, which should indeed have died
With them *they* think on. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
The Spaniard
Must now confess, if *they* have any goodness,
The trial just and noble.
They eat on beds of silk and gold,
At ivory tables, or wood fold
Dearer than it. *Benj. Johnson's Cataline.*
They know
2. To joy the friend and grapple with the foe. *Prior.*
Those men; those women; opposed to some others.
Only *they*,
That come to hear a merry play,
Will be deceiv'd. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*
'Tis remarkable, that *they*
Talk most who have the least to say. *Prior.*
3. It is used indefinitely; as the French *on dit*.
There, as *they* say, perpetual night is found
In silence brooding on th' unhappy ground. *Dryden.*

THI'BLE. *n. f.* A slice; a cummer; a spatula.

THICK. *adj.* [*thicke*, Saxon; *thick*, Dutch; *dyck*, Danish; *thickur*, Islandick.]

1. Not thin.
Denie; not rare; gross; crass.
God caused the wind to blow, to dry up the abundant
flume of the earth, make the land more firm, and cleanse the
air of *thick* vapours and unwholesome mists. *Raleigh.*
To warm milk pour spirit of nitre; the milk presently
after will become *thicker* than it was. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
2. Not clear; not transparent; muddy; feculent.
Why hast thou lost the fresh blood in thy cheeks,
And given my treasures and my rights of thee,
To *thick* ey'd musing and curs'd melancholy?
A fermentation makes all the wine in the vessel *thick* or
foul; but when that is past, it grows clear of itself. *Temple.*
Encumber'd in the mud, their oars divide
With heavy strokes the *thick* unwieldy tide. *Addison.*
4. Great in circumference; not slender.
My little finger shall be *thicker* than his loins. *1 Kings xii.*
Thou art waxen fat; thou art grown *thick*, covered with
fatness. *Deut. xxxii. 15.*
5. Frequent; in quick succession; with little intermission.
They charged the defendants with their small shot and
Turky arrows as *thick* as hail. *Kneller.*
Favours came *thick* upon him, liker main flowers than
sprinkling drops or dews; for the next St. George's day he
was knighted, made gentleman of the king's bed-chamber,
and an annual pension given him. *Wotton.*
This being once a week, came too *thick* and too often
about. *Spelman.*

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His pills as *thick* as handgranado's flew,
And where they fell as certainly they flew. *Rescommen.*

Clofe; not divided by much space; crowded.
It brought them to a hollow cave,
Amid the *thicket* woods. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*
The people were gathered *thick* together. *Luke xi. 29.*
Not *thicker* billows beat the Libyan main,
Nor *thicker* harvests on rich Hermus rise,
Than stand the troops. *Dryden's En.*
He fought secure of fortune as of fame;
Still by new maps the island might be shown:
Conquests he strew'd where'er he came,
Thick as the galaxy with stars is sown. *Dryden.*
Objects of pain or pleasure do not lie *thick* enough toge-
ther in life to keep the soul in constant action. *Addison.*

7. Not easily pervious; set with things close to each other.
He through a little window cast his sight,
Though *thick* of bars that gave a scanty light.
The speedy horse
Watch each entrance of the winding wood,
Black was the forest, *thick* with beech it stood. *Dryden.*
Next the proud palace of Salerno stood
A mount of rough ascent, and *thick* with wood. *Dryden.*
Bring it near some *thick*-headed tree. *Mortimer.*
8. Coarse; not thin.
It tasteth a little of the wax, which in a pomegranate, or
some such *thick*-coated fruit, it would not. *Bacon.*
Thick-leaved weeds amongst the grafs will need more dry-
ing than ordinary grafs. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
9. Without proper intervals of articulation.
Speaking *thick*, which nature made his blemish,
Became the accents of the valiant,
To seem like him. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*

THICK. *n. f.* [from the adjective.]

1. The thickest part or time when any thing is thickest.
Achimenes having with a mine suddenly blown up a great
part of the wall of the Spanish station, in the *thick* of the
dust and smoke presently entered his men. *Kneller.*
2. *Thick and thin.* Whatever is in the way.
Through perils both of wind and limb,
Through *thick* and *thin* he followed him. *Hudibras.*
When first the down appears upon his chin,
For a small sum to swear through *thick* and *thin*. *Dryden.*

THICK. *adv.* [It is not always easy to distinguish the adverb from the adjective.]

1. Frequently; fast.
'Tis some disaster,
Or else he would not fend so *thick*. *Denham's Sephy.*
I hear the trampling of *thick* beating feet;
This way they move. *Dryden's Don Sebastian.*
2. Closely.
The neighbour'ing plain with arms is cover'd o'er;
The vale an iron harvest seems to yield.
Of *thick* sprung lances in a waving field. *Dryden.*
A little plat of ground *thick* sown, is better than a great
field which lies fallow. *Norris's Mytil.*
3. To a great depth.
If you apply it *thick* spread, it will eat to the bone. *Wifem.*
Cato has piercing eyes, and will discern
Our frauds, unless they're cover'd *thick* with art. *Addison.*
4. *Thick and threefold.* In quick succession; in great numbers.
They came *thick and threefold* for a time, till one expe-
rienced fager discovered the plot. *L'Estrange's Fab.*

To **THICKEN.** *v. a.* [from *thick*.]

1. To make thick.
Waters evaporated and mounted up into the air, *thicken*
and cool it. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
2. To condense; to concretize.
The white of an egg gradually dissolves by heat, exceed-
ing a little the heat of a human body; a greater degree of
heat will *thicken* it into a white, dark-coloured, dry, viscous
mass. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
4. To strengthen; to confirm.
'Tis a shrewd doubt, though it be but a dream;
And this may help to *thicken* other proofs, *Shakespeare's Othello.*
That do demonstrate thinly.
5. To make frequent.
6. To make close or numerous.

To **THICKEN.** *v. n.*

1. To grow thick.
Thy lustre *thickens* *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleopatra.*
2. To grow dense or muddy.
When he shines by.
3. To concretize; to be consolidated.
Water stop gives birth
To grafs and plants, and *thickens* into earth. *Prior.*
4. To grow close or numerous.
The press of people *thickens* to the court, *Dryden.*
Th' impatient crowd devouring the report.
He saw the crowd *thickenings*, and desired to know how
many there were. *Tatler.*

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5. To grow quick.
The combat *thickens*, like the storm that flies
From westward when the show'ry kids arise,
Or part'ing hail comes pouring on the main,
When Jupiter descends in harden'd rain. *Addison.*

THICKET. *n. f.* [*thicket*, Saxon.] A close knot or tuft of
trees; a close wood or copse.
I drew you hither,
Into the thickest *thicket* of the park.
Within a *thicket* I repos'd; and found
Let fall from heav'n a sleep interminate. *Chapman.*
Thus, or any of his, could not in haste creep through
those desert regions, which the length of one hundred and
thirty years after the flood had fortified with *thickets*, and
permitted every bush and briar, reed and tree, to join them-
selves into one main body and forest. *Raleigh.*
How often, from the steep
Of echoing hill, or *thicket*, have we heard
Celestial voices, to the midnight air,
Sole, or responsive, each to other's note,
Singing their great Creator?
My brothers slept to the next *thicket* side
To bring me berries. *Milton.*
Now Leda's twins
Their trembling lances brandish'd at the foe;
Not had they mis'd, but he to *thickets* fled,
Conceal'd from aiming spears, not pervious to the speed. *Dryden.*

I've known young Juba rise before the sun,
To beat the *thicket* where the tyger slept,
Or seek the lion in his dreadful haunts. *Addison's Cato.*

THICKLY. *adv.* [from *thick*.] Deeply; to a great quantity.
Mending cracked receivers, having *thickly* overlaid them
with diachylon, we could not perceive leaks. *Boyle.*

THICKNESS. *n. f.* [from *thick*.]

1. The state of being thick; density.
2. Quantity of matter interposed; space taken up by matter
interposed.
In the darkened room, against the hole at which the light
entered, I could easily see through the whole *thickness* of my
hand the motions of a body placed beyond it. *Boyle.*
3. Quantity laid on quantity to some considerable depth.
Poll a tree, and cover it some *thickness* with clay on the
top, and see what it will put forth. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
4. Confistence; grossness; not rareness; spissitude.
Nitre mingled with water to the *thickness* of honey, and
anointed on the bud after the vine is cut, it will sprout
forth. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. N. 444.*
Discales imagined to come from the *thickness* of blood,
come often from the contrary cause. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
5. Imperviousness; closeness.
The banks of the river and the *thickness* of the shades drew
into them all the birds of the country. *Addison.*
6. Want of sharpness; want of quickness.
A person found in himself, being at some times subject to
a *thickness* of hearing, the like effect. *Holder.*
What you write is printed in large letters; otherwise be-
tween the weakness of my eyes and *thickness* of hearing, I
should lose the greatest pleasure. *Swift.*

THICK-SCULLED. *adj.* Dull; stupid.
Pleas'd to hear their *thick-sull'd* judges cry,
Well mov'd! oh finely said!
This downright fighting fool, this *thick-sull'd* hero,
This blunt unthinking instrument of death,
With plain dull virtue has outgone my wit. *Dryden.*

THICKSET. *adj.* [*thick* and *set*.] Close planted.
His eye-balls glare with fire, suffus'd with blood,
His neck shoots up a *thicket* thorny wood;
His bristled back a trench impal'd appears,
And stands erected, like a field of spears. *Dryden.*
The world is so *thicket* with the numerous productions of
the creatures, that besides the apparent beauty of things view-
ed by all, there are those secret graces in every part of na-
ture, which some few alone have the skill to discern. *Grew.*

THICKSKIN. *n. f.* [*thick* and *skin*.] A coarse gross man; a
numskul.
The shallow'st *thickskin* of that barren fort,
Who Pyramus presented in their sport,
Fosbook his scene and enter'd in a brake. *Shakespeare.*

THIEF. *n. f.* [*thief*, Gothick; *thief*, Saxon; *thief*, Dutch.
It was anciently written *thief*, and so appeareth to have been
of two syllables; *thie* was wont to be taken for *thrift*, so
that *thie* of is he that takes of or from a man his *thie*, that is,
his *thrift* or means whereby he thrives.]

1. One who takes what belongs to another: *the thief* steals by
secrecy, and *the robber* by violence; but these senses are con-
founded.
Take heed, have open eye; for *thieves* do foot by night.
Shakespeare.
This he said because he was a *thief*, and had the bag. *John.*
Because he took it not by lawless force?

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Am I obliged by that t' assist his rapines, *Dryden.*
And to maintain his murders?

2. An excrescence in the snuff of a candle.
Their burning lamps the storm ensuing show,
Th' oil sparkles, *thieves* about the snuff do grow. *May.*

THIEF-CATCHER. *n. f.* [*thief* and *catch*.] One whose bu-
siness is to de-
THIEF-TAKER. *n. f.* [*thief* and *take*.] tect thieves,
and bring them to justice.
A wolf pass'd by as the *thief-leader* were dragging a fox
to execution. *L'Estrange.*
My ev'nings all I would with sharpers spend,
And make the *thief-catcher* my bosom friend. *Bramston.*

To **THIEVE.** *v. n.* [from *thief*.] To steal; to practise theft.

THIEVERY. *n. f.* [from *thieve*.]

1. The practice of stealing.
Ne how to scape great punishment and shame, *Spenser.*
For their false treason and vile *thievery*. *Shakespeare.*
Master, be one of them; 'tis an honourable kind of
thievery.
Do villainy, do, since you profess to do't, *Shakespeare.*
Like workmen; I'll example you with *thievery*.
He makes it a help unto *thievery*; for thieves having a de-
sign upon a house, make a fire at the four corners thereof,
and call therein the fragments of loadstone, which raise the
fume. *Brown's Vulg. Errors, b. ii.*
Amongst the Spartans, *thievery* was a practice morally good
and honest. *South.*
2. That which is stolen.
Injurious time now, with a robber's haste,
Crams his rich *thievery* up he knows not how. *Shakespeare.*

THIEVISH. *adj.* [from *thief*.]

1. Given to stealing; practising theft.
What, would'st thou have me go and beg my food?
Or with a bafe and boist'rous sword enforce
A *thievish* living on the common road. *Shakespeare.*
O *thievish* night,
Why should'st thou, but for some felonious end,
In thy dark lantern thus close up the stars;
That nature hung in heav'n, and fill'd their lamps
With everlasting oil, to give due light
To the mild and lonely traveller?
The *thievish* God suspected him, and took
The hind aside, and thus in whispers spoke;
Discover not the theft. *Addison.*
2. Secret; sly.
Four and twenty times the pilot's glass
Hath told the *thievish* minutes how they pass. *Shakespeare.*

THIEVISHLY. *adv.* [from *thievish*.] Like a thief.
They lay not to live by their works,
But *thievishly* loiter and lurk. *Tusser's Hufl.*

THIEVISHNESS. *n. f.* [from *thievish*.] Disposition to steal;
habit of stealing.

THIGH. *n. f.* [*thio*, Saxon; *thio*, Islandick; *die*, Dutch.]
The *thigh* includes all between the buttocks and the knee.
The *thigh* bone is the longest of all the bones in the body:
its fibres are close and hard: it has a cavity in its middle: it
is a little convex and round on its fore-side, but a little hol-
low, with a long and small ridge on its back-side. *Quincy.*
He touched the hollow of his *thigh*, and it was out of
joint. *Gm. xxiii. 25.*
The flesh dissolved, and left the *thigh* bone bare. *Wifem.*

THILK. pronoun. [*thic*, Saxon.] That same. Obsolete.
I love *thilk* lass: alas, why do I love!
She deigns not my good will, but doth reprove,
And of my rural musick holdeth scorn. *Spenser's Past.*

THILL. *n. f.* [*thill*, Saxon, a piece of timber cut.] The
shafts of a waggon; the arms of wood between which the
last horse is placed.
More easily a waggon may be drawn in rough ways if the
fore wheels were as high as the hinder wheels, and if the
thills were fixed under the axis. *Mortimer's Hufl.*

THILL-HORSE. *n. f.* [*thill* and *horse*.] The last horse; the
THILLER. *n. f.* [*thill* and *horse*.] The last horse; the
horse that goes between the shafts.
Whole bridle and saddle for *thiller* and al. *Tusser.*
With collars and harness for *thiller* and al.
What a beard hast thou got? thou hast got more hair on
thy chin, than Dobbin my *thill* horse has on his tail. *Shak.*

THIMBLE. *n. f.* [This is supposed by *Minghew* to be corrupted
from *thumb bell*.] A metal cover by which women secure their
fingers from the needle when they sew.
Your ladies and pale visag'd maids,
Like Amazons, come tripping after drums;
Their *thimbles* into armed gantlets change,
Their needles to lances. *Shakespeare's King John.*
Examine Venus and the Moon,
Who stole a *thimble* or a spoon. *Hudibras, p. i.*
Veins that run perpendicular to the horizon, have valves
sticking to their sides like so many *thimbles*; which, when
the blood presses back, stop its passage, but are compressed
by the forward motion of the blood. *Chayne.*

THYME.